

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01

SAB-01 IO-10 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-06

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R 051456Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8859

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 7017

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, EG

SUBJECT: ISRAELI CARGO THROUGH SUEZ CANAL

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF UNATTRIBUTED ARTICLE IN NOV 5
MAARIV CONCERNING EXPECTED ISRAELI REJECTION OF ALLEGED
US REQUEST TO DELAY PASSAGE OF SECOND SHIP BEARING ISRAELI
CARGO THROUGH SUEZ CANAL.

2. BEGIN TEXT: PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN STATED THAT
THE PASSAGE OF ISRAELI CARGOES THROUGH THE CANAL WILL FROM
NOW ON BE A ROUTINE MATTER OF TRANSPORTATION. THEREFORE
HE PASSED THE HANDLING OF THE AFFAIRS OF CARGO TRANSPORT-
ATION THROUGH THE CANAL TO THE SHIPPING BRANCH OF THE
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT. ACCORDING TO THIS ATTITUDE, EXPRESSED
BY THE PRIME MINISTER, ISRAEL WILL REJECT THE REQUEST OF
THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE, DR. KISSINGER, TO DELAY THE
PASSAGE OF A SECOND ISRAELI CARGO VESSEL THROUGH THE SUEZ
CANAL, ALTHOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THERE MAY BE TECHNICAL
DELAYS "OF A DAY OR TWO" FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER.

IT WAS REPORTED FROM GOVERNMENT SOURCES THAT THERE
EXISTS A PROGRAM OF SENDING A NUMBER OF CARGOES THROUGH THE
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CANAL DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, "BUT FROM NOW ON THE CON-

SIDERATION OF USING THE CANAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF SHIPPING
ISRAELI CARGOES THROUGH IT (TO AND FROM ISRAEL) WILL BE
PURELY ON AN ECONOMIC BASIS".

BY DECIDING TO PASS THE HANDLING OF CARGOES FROM NOW ON
TO THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, THE PRIME MINISTER HAS REJECTED
THE PROPOSAL OF FOREIGN MINISTER YIGAL ALLON THAT THE MATTER
OF THE TRANSFER OF CARGOES SHOULD BE ENTRUSTED TO THE HANDLING
BY A SPECIAL MINISTERIAL TEAM, HEADED BY THE PRIME MINISTER,
YITZHAK RABIN...

ISRAEL WILL EXPLAIN TO WASHINGTON THAT IT IS NECESSARY
TO STOP RELATING TO THE PASSAGE OF ISRAELI CARGOES THROUGH
THE CANAL AS TO "SOMETHING SPECIAL", WHICH EVERY TIME
REQUIRES PRIOR HANDLING ON A POLITICAL LEVEL...END TEXT.

3. ESSENTIALLY SAME ARTICLE ALSO APPEARED IN JERUSALEM
POST AND AL HAMISHMAR.
TOON

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